REMARKS

This Supplemental Amendment and Response is made in reply to the Final Office Action mailed August 18, 2010, in which the Examiner:

objected to the drawings;

rejected claims 2, 6 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Great Britain Patent No. 2,374,654 to Allport ("Allport"); and

allowed claims 3-5 and 7.

Claims 2-8 are pending in the subject Application. Claims 2, 6 and 8 are amended herewith. Claim 1 was previously canceled. Claims 2, 3 and 6-8 are independent claims. Claims 4 and 5 depend directly from claim 3.

This Supplemental Amendment and Response follows the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and a Request for Limited Suspension of Action on December 17, 2010. Because this Supplemental Amendment and Response has been filed during the pendency of the Suspension of Action which expires on March 17, 2011, Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing Amendments to the Claims be entered as of right. *See* M.P.E.P. § 714.03(a); 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(a)(2)(*ii*).

Applicants submit that the objections to the drawings were properly addressed in the Amendment and Response to Final Office Action that was filed on November 18, 2010. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgement in the Advisory Action mailed December 2, 2010, that the objection to the drawings has been overcome. Moreover, as was set forth in the RCE dated December 17, 2010, Applicants hereby request entry of the Amendments to the Specification which were included in the Amendment and Response to Final Office Action that was filed on November 18, 2010.

Regarding the rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Allport, amended claim 2 recites an isolation damper pulley attached to a crankshaft of an engine, comprising a damper unit including a hub having a mounting hole for placement on said crankshaft, an inside cylindrical portion

provided to said hub so as to be concentric with a center axis of said mounting hole, an annular mass body attached to an outside cylindrical portion provided to said hub via a first elastic member, and a disk portion provided so as to extend radially from said inside cylindrical portion to said outside cylindrical portion; a pulley portion including a cylindrical portion, in an outer circumferential portion of which a pulley groove is formed and which is disposed outside said annular mass body, and a cover portion extending from one axial-directional end of said cylindrical portion in a central direction; a second annular elastic member whose one axial-directional end is fixed to an inner face of a radial-inner portion of said cover portion, whose other axial-directional end is supported by said disk portion, and to which a pre-compression is applied axially; and a pressing unit having a cylindrical fitting portion that is concentric with said center axis and is positioned between an inner circumferential surface of said second annular elastic member and an outer circumferential surface of said inside cylindrical portion, and a pressing portion extending radially from said cylindrical fitting portion, said cover portion being axially pressed by said pressing portion, and said pressing unit applying an axial-directional pre-compression to said second annular elastic member, wherein said cylindrical fitting portion of said pressing unit is axially press-inserted into said inside cylindrical portion of said damper unit so as to be fitted coaxially, and a fixing position of said pressing unit is capable of being adjusted axially with respect to said inside cylindrical portion of said damper unit.

The Examiner argues that each of the features recited in claim 2 is shown or disclosed in Allport. Final Office Action, pages 2-4. Specifically, the Examiner argues that the annular elastomeric ring 23 of the annular resilient member 22 of Allport is a "second elastic member" with one end fixed to a side of the damper unit and another end fixed to a side of the pulley portion, to which a precompression is applied axially; that the first annular member 2 of Allport is a "damper unit"; and that disc 4 and hub member 8 of Allport are the "pressing unit" and "cylindrical fitting portion" inserted into an inside cylindrical portion of the damper unit, wherein a fixing portion of the pressing unit is capable of being adjusted axially with respect to the inside cylindrical portion of the damping unit. Final Office Action, page 3. Moreover, in the Advisory Action

mailed December 2, 2010, the Examiner argued that "the resilient member 22 (of which element 23 is a part, see figure 1) is disposed between the first and second annular members 2 and 3 (note that in figure 2 that element 2 is part of element 4) so as to be compressed in a circumferential direction relative to the drive shaft." Advisory Action, page 3. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element, as set forth in the claim, is either expressly or inherently described in a single prior art reference. The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. Because the hallmark of anticipation is prior invention, the prior art reference must not only disclose all elements of the claim within the four corners of the document, but must also disclose those elements arranged as in the claim, in order to anticipate the claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Applicants respectfully submit that Allport does not anticipate amended claim 2, at least because Allport fails to show or disclose the second annular elastic member, the damper unit or the cylindrical fitting portion recited in amended claim 2.

The Examiner argues that the annular resilient member 22 of Allport is the "second annular elastic member" recited in claim 2. Final Office Action, page 3. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner. As is shown in Figures 1 and 2 of Allport, reproduced below, the annular resilient member 22 is disposed between the first and second annular member 2, 3, and studs 30, 31 are fixed to the first and second annular members 2, 3, and received in apertures 32, 33 of the resilient member 22.

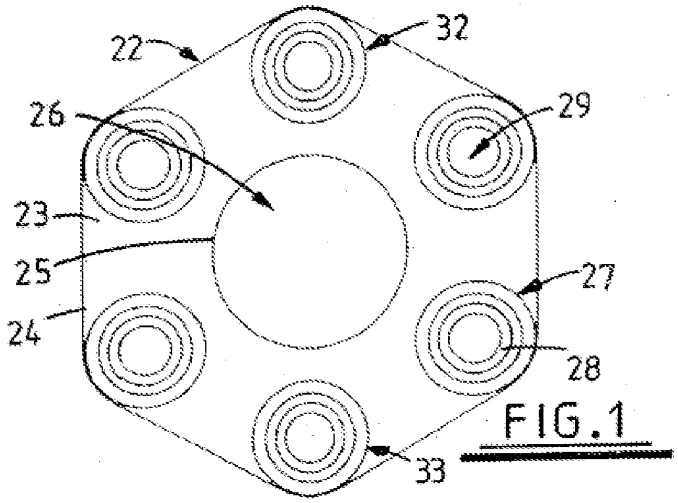

FIG. 1

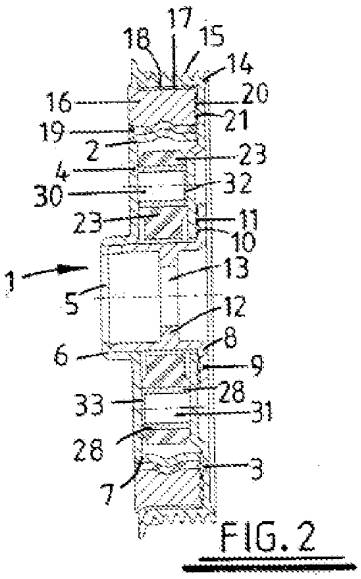

FIG. 2

See Allport, pages 4-5; FIGS. 1-2.

However, the annular resilient member 22 of Allport does not have a second annular elastic member having one axial-directional end fixed to an inner face of a radial-inner portion of a cover portion of a pulley portion and another axial directional end supported by a disk portion of a damper unit, and to which a pre-compression is applied axially, as is recited in amended claim 2. As is shown above, and as is expressly set forth in Allport, the annular resilient member 22 is merely "disposed between the first and second annular members 2, 3," Allport, page 4 (emphasis added), and is neither fixed to an inner face of a radial-inner portion of a cover portion of a pulley portion nor supported by a disk portion of a damper unit, as is recited in amended claim 2.

Furthermore, Allport fails to disclose that the annular resilient member 22 is subject to a pre-compression applied axially, as is recited in amended claim 2. Rather, Allport expressly states that the annular resilient member 22 is "to be compressed in a circumferential direction relative to the drive shaft when a torque is being transferred, thereby isolating any fluctuations in torque and preventing their transmission to the second annular member 3." Allport, page 5 (emphasis added). As is shown in Figure 2 of Allport, reproduced above, the first and second annular members 2, 3 make relative displacement in a circumferential direction, and the compression of the annular resilient member 22 in the circumferential direction is caused by this relative displacement. *See*

Allport, page 5. For this reason, stud 30 is fixed to the first annular member 2, but is not fixed to the second annular member 3, as evidenced by the gap shown between the stud 30 and the second annular member 3 in Figure 2. Conversely, stud 31 is fixed to the second annular member 3, but is not fixed to the second annular member 3, as evidenced by the gap shown between the stud 31 and the first annular member 2 in Figure 2. If the studs 30, 31 were fixed to both the first and second annular members 2, 3, the annular resilient member 22 could not be relatively displaced in the each rotational direction of the first and second annular members 2, 3.

Moreover, since the sleeves 28 of Allport are also only attached to the studs 30, 31, or covered, both ends of the sleeves 28 are not fixed to the first and second annular members 2, 3. As is shown in Figure 2 of Allport, reproduced above, both end faces of each of the sleeves 28 appears to abut the faces of the first and second annular members 2, 3 opposed to the end faces, but are not fixed to the opposed end faces of the first and second annular members 2, 3. If both end faces of each of the sleeves 28 are fixed to the opposed faces of the first and second annular members 2, 3, the relative displacement of the first and second annular members 2, 3 cannot occur, and the annular resilient member 22 cannot be compressed in the circumferential direction. An upper side of each of the sleeves 28 moves along with stud 30 (first annular member 2), but is independent from the second annular member 3. Similarly, a lower side of each of the sleeves moves along with stud 31 (second annular member 3), but is independent from the first annular member 2.

In fact, Allport expressly denigrates pre-compressing the annular resilient member 22 in the axial direction, as such pre-compression would place the resilient member under shear forces during rotation. According to Allport, "[d]riving the resilient member . . . in tension and compression rather than in shear, reduces the tendency for this component to wear and/or fail." Allport, page 3 (emphasis added).

Additionally, the Examiner further argues that first annular member 2 of Allport is a "damper unit" that includes an "inside cylindrical portion," or central portion 6, provided to a hub, and that disc 4 of Allport is a "pressing unit" having a "cylindrical fitting portion," or hub member 8. *See* Final Office

Action, page 3. However, as is shown in Figure 2 of Allport, reproduced above, the hub member 8 of Allport is not positioned between an inner circumferential surface of a second annular elastic member (*i.e.*, which the Examiner has identified to be annular resilient member 22), and an outer circumferential surface of an inside cylindrical portion of a damper unit (*i.e.*, which the Examiner has identified to be central portion 6), as is recited in amended claim 2.

Furthermore, even if the annular resilient member 22 was the "second annular elastic member" recited in amended claim 2, the disc 4 of Allport does not "apply[] an axial-directional pre-compression to said second annular elastic member," as is recited in amended claim 2. As is set forth above, and as is shown in Figure 2 of Allport, the annular resilient member 22 of Allport is not subject to pre-compression due to the rigid abutment of the studs 30, 31 against the undersides of the respective annular members 2, 3. Therefore, disc 4 is thus not a "pressing unit," as is recited in amended claim 2.

Accordingly, because Allport fails to teach or suggest either the second annular elastic member, the damper unit, the pressing unit or the cylindrical fitting portion recited in amended claim 2, Applicants submit that amended claim 2 is not anticipated by Allport, and respectfully request that the rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

Regarding the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Allport, Applicants submit that amended claim 6 is not anticipated by Allport for at least the same reasons as those set forth above with regard to amended claim 2. Specifically, amended claim 6 recites a second annular elastic member and a pressing unit that are similar to those recited in amended claim 2. As is set forth above, neither the second annular elastic member nor the pressing unit is either shown or disclosed in Allport.

Moreover, as is set forth above, claim 6 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, a supporting unit having a second fitting portion concentric with the center axis of a mounting hole and a supporting portion extending radially from said second fitting portion. Applicants submit that Allport fails to show or disclose any such supporting unit and thus fails to anticipate amended claim 6.

Accordingly, because Allport fails to teach or suggest either the second annular elastic member, the pressing unit or the supporting unit recited in amended claim 6, Applicants submit that amended claim 6 is not anticipated by Allport, and respectfully request that the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

Finally, regarding the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Allport, Applicants submit that amended claim 8 is not anticipated by Allport for at least the same reasons as those set forth above with regard to amended claims 2 and 6. Specifically, amended claim 8 recites a method for manufacturing an isolation damper pulley comprising, *inter alia*, preparing a pulley unit including a cylindrical portion, in an outer circumferential portion of which a pulley groove is formed and which is disposed outside an annular mass body, a cover portion extending from one axial-directional end of said cylindrical portion in a central direction and supporting one axial-directional end of a second elastic member, a supporting means that is provided with a second fitting portion concentric with a first fitting portion and has a supporting portion extending radially from a second fitting portion, and a second annular elastic member whose one axial-directional end is supported by said cover portion and whose other axial-directional end is supported by said supporting portion.

As is set forth above with regard to the rejections of claims 2 and 6, Allport fails to show or disclose such a second annular elastic member or a supporting means.

Accordingly, because Allport fails to teach or suggest either the second annular elastic member or the supporting means recited in amended claim 8, Applicants submit that amended claim 8 is not anticipated by Allport, and respectfully request that the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

Applicants submit that support for the foregoing amendments to claims 2, 6 and 8 may be found generally throughout the specification and drawings as

filed, and particularly in pages 15-17 of the original specification and in Figures 1, 3 and 4. No new matter has been added.

Applicants believe that no additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this Supplemental Amendment and Response. If any additional fees are deemed necessary, authorization is hereby granted to charge any such fees to Deposit Account No. 13-0235.

Respectfully submitted

/Marina F. Cunningham/
Marina F. Cunningham
Registration No. 38,419
Attorney For Appellants

Customer No. 35301
McCormick, Paulding & Huber LLP
CityPlace II, 185 Asylum Street
Hartford, CT 06103-4102
Tel: (860) 549-5290
Fax: (860) 527-0464